



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Reissue Application of

Inventors: James A. SATCHELL, Jr. et al

Original U.S. Patent No.: 5,822,216, issued October 13, 1998

Reissue Application Serial No.: 09/686,626

Group Art Unit: 2121

Reissue Application Filing Date: October 12, 2000

Examiner: S. Garland

For: VENDING MACHINE AND COMPUTER ASSEMBLY

DECLARATION OF JAMES A. SATCHELL, JR.

I, James A. Satchell, Jr., make this declaration based on personal knowledge and recollection:

1. I am one of the co-inventors of the above-identified application, having previously filed at least one Declaration in connection with this reissue proceeding.
2. I am an African-American from Tuskegee, Alabama and attended, together with my patent attorney, a Personal Interview on April 28, 2003, at which Mr. Garland (the Examiner) and Mr. Leo Picard (who I understood to be Mr. Garland's supervisor) were present on behalf of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.
3. At the outset of the Personal Interview, I, as a preacher, opened the proceeding with a short prayer. As is my custom, I was wearing my collar denoting my office as a minister.
4. After hearing arguments from my patent attorney attempting to overcome the rejections, Mr. Picard, looking directly at, and addressing me, stated words to the effect that "because this application is potentially worth a lot of money, it would be given 'extra scrutiny' before they would allow it to issue to me."

5. Although this patent application is now assigned to VendoNet, Inc., a corporation which I formed and of which I am currently President and CEO, the assignee is still a small business.
6. I took Mr. Picard's statements to be based on prejudice and discriminatory against me, as a reissue applicant, based upon my race.

Further declarant sayeth not.

I, further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the this application or of any reissue patent to issue thereon.

AUGUST 9, 2006

Date

James A. Satchell, Jr.

James A. Satchell, Jr.